

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the office action dated September 29, 2008. As a preliminary matter, applicants wish to point out an ambiguity in the status of the office action. On the office action summary page the action is considered non-final. This is also the status of the office action as it appears in PAIR. This status is also consistent with the Advisory Action which states that the amendment of June 24, 2008 would not be entered as it raised new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. The unentered claim amendment was repeated with the Request for Continued Examination filed July 24, 2008. There is, however, a statement on page 5 of the office action that "this action is made final". In view of the foregoing, applicants believe this statement has been made erroneously. In the event that it is not correct, applicants request continued examination of this application under 37 CFR 1.114, and authorize the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) to be charged to Deposit Account 50-0413.

Claim Rejections

In the office action, claim 44 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended base claim 41 to include the limitations of claim intervening claims, and claim 44. Claims 44, 43 and 44 have been canceled. Claims 45, 46 and 47 have been amended to depend from claim 41. All other claims have been canceled.

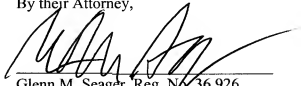
In view of the foregoing applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne M. Goodwin et al.

By their Attorney,

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